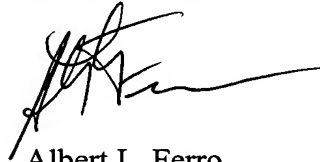


Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-11 and 21-26 are pending in the application, with 1 and 21 being the independent claims. Claims 12-20 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Ferro', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Albert L. Ferro
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,679

Date: August 20, 2003

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